GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2596
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2003
FCI GODOWNS
ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN;BIR SING MAHATO;RAM PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India godowns have been inspected by the Quality ControlCell to check the quality of foodgrains during the current Financial Year;

(b) if so, whether during the course of inspection some old stocks of foodgrains and sugar have been found, which are not fit for consumption;

(c) if so, whether the Government have conducted an inquiry into the above matter so as to find out the officers responsible for damage to valuable foodgrains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction taken or proposed to be taken against the officers held guilty?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SU MAHARIA)

(a)&(b): Yes Sir. The Quality Control Cell has inspected 231 godowns of the FoodCorporation of India (FCI) during the current financial year upto January, 2003. During the course of inspection, nowhere were foodgrains inspected by the officers of the Quality Control Cell found unfit for human consumption.

(c),(d)&(e): Do not arise in view of reply above. However, inspite of various steps taken for the maintenance and preservation of foodgrains, some damage to foodgrains stocks does take place in a few cases due to long storage periods as well as due to natural calamities, such as floods, cyclones etc. In such cases, fixing responsibility on the staff does not arise. However, if stocks are damaged due to human negligence, the FCI takes action against the officials responsible as per their prescribed procedure.